

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 12-24, 36-48 and 60-72 were allowed. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 49, 50, 52, 54 and 55 were rejected, while dependent claims 3, 5, 8-11, 27, 29, 23-36, 51, 53 and 56-59 were objected to, but indicated as reciting allowable subject matter in combination with their parent claims.

By the present Response, claims 1, 25 and 49 have been amended. Claims 10, 34 and 58 have been canceled. New claims 73 and 74 have been added.

Claim 1 incorporates the subject matter of dependent claim 10 which was indicated as allowable. Accordingly, claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 25 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 34, similarly indicated as allowable. Accordingly, claim 25 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 49 has been amended in a similar manner to incorporate subject matter from claim 58, indicated as allowable. Accordingly, claim 49 is in condition for allowance.

Upon entry of the amendments, it is believed that all of claims 1-9, 11-33, 35-57 and 59-72 will be in condition for allowance.

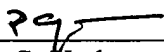
A new claim 73 has been added that incorporates subject matter of original claims 1, 2 and 3, claim 3 having been indicated as reciting allowable subject matter. Similarly, claim 74 has been added that incorporates subject matter of claims 1, 4 and 5, claim 5 having been indicated as reciting allowable subject matter. Consideration and allowance of claims 73 and 74 are therefore requested.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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